

THORSTEIN VEBLEN FARMSTEAD, HOUSE
(Thomas Veblen Farmstead)
Section 12, Wheeling Twp.
Nerstrand Vicinity
Rice County
Minnesota

HABS NO. MN-82

HABS
MINN,
66-NER.V,
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PHOTOGRAPHS AND

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

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ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Minnesota	COUNTY Rice	TOWN OR VICINITY Nerstrand vicinity
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) THORSTEIN VEBLEN FARMSTEAD		HABS NO. MN-82
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE Thomas Veblen Farmstead		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) one mile east of the small village of Nerstrand, wheeling township		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) circa. 1875	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Thorestein Veblen lived on this property as a youth and returned here often as an adult. An economist, social scientist and critic of American culture, Veblen coined the term "conspicuous consumption, and has been called on of America's most original thinkers.*		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Second Empire		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) wood frame with cedar shingle roof		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) 2 story, rectangular shaped		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE abandoned, the house is poorly maintained and becoming increasingly deteriorating		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE *The property's simple vernacular styling illustrates early influences on Veblen's life as the son of immigrants, growing up in a tightly knit Norwegian-American Community. His book, <u>Theory of the Leisure Class</u> is a economic, social and literary classic.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) National Register nomination, prepared by Thomas Lutz, Minn. Hist. Soc. Catalog of National Historic Landmarks		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION C. Lavoie, Historian, HABS/HAER		DATE Jan. 1989